

## Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 ISO-00 PM-03 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 L-02

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FM AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

TO AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 1383

S E C R E T LUSAKA 0501

NOFORN

EO 11652: XGDS-2

TAGS:PFOR, PINR, GY

SUBJECT: ADDITIONAL BIOGRAPHIC NOTES ON FRED WILLS, GUYANESE  
MINISTER OF STATE

REF: GEORGETOWN 0324

1. WILLS IS INDEED SOMEWHAT UNPREDICATABLE. HE HAS BEEN PERSONALLY VERY FRIENDLY WITH ME AND OTHER AMERICAN COLLEAGUES AND LIKES TO GET QUICKLY ON FIRST-NAME BASIS. HE HAS NOT HESITATED TO CRITICIZE U.S. AFRICAN POLICY IN PUBLIC PRONOUNCEMENTS, BUT THEN EXPLAIN PRIVATELY IT'S JUST POLITICIANS TALK. AT RECENT MOFA BRIEFING OF LOCAL DIPLOMATS WILLS JOINED ZAMBIAN FOREIGN MINISTER IN CONDEMNATION OF US, UK AND FRANCE FOR USE OF VETO IN SOUTH AFRICAN EXPULSION VOTE. WHILE CONDEMNING US POLICY IN TOUGH TERMS, WILLS TOOK PAINS IN HIS PUBLIC STATEMENT NOT TO OFFEND ME PERSONALLY. THUS HE STRIKES US AS THOUGHTFUL AND CONSIDERATE PERSON, ALTHOUGH POLITICALLY OBLIGATED TO TAKE TOUGH PUBLIC STAND IN FAITHFUL ENDORSEMENT OF THIRD WORLD, NON-ALIGNED POLICY POSITIONS. AGREE THAT HE MAY PROVE DIFFICULT FROM STANDPOINT OF US INTERESTS, BUT BELIEVE SOME OF HIS THUNDER CAN BE LOWERED, IF WE MAKE SPECIAL EFFORT TO GET TO HIM EARLY TO ARGUE RESONABLENESS OF OUR POSITIONS. HOWEVER, ONE SHOULD ALWAYS BE READY FOR SURPRISES AND

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OCCASIONALLY ERRATIC BEHAVIOR WITH WILLS.

2. BEING "ONE OF THE BOYS" WHO DRANK AND WOMANIZED HEAVILY WHILE IN LUSAKA, WILLS GOT TO KNOW ZAMBIAN POLITICIANS PERHAPS BETTER THAN ANY OTHER FOREIGN DIPLOMAT. HE THUS GAINED SOME VERY SPECIAL INSIGHTS INTO ZAMBIAN POLITICAL PERSONALITIES AND POLICIES IN ADDITION TO SUPPLYING GRZ WITH A SCORE OF ATTRACTIVE GUYANAN SECRETARIES WHO HE BRAGGED PASSED HIM ZAMBIAN STATE SECRETS. THIS INCLUDED THE ZAMBIAN FOREIGN MINISTER'S SECRETARY.

3. YET WILLS COULD HARDLY BE CLASSED AS A FRIVOLOUS DIPLOMAT, EVEN THOUGH HE MAKES FULL USE OF HIS FREE TIME. WHILE IN LUSAKA HE HAD RESPONSIBILITY FOR GUYANAN INTERESTS ALL OVER AFRICA AND SUBJECTED HIMSELF TO HEAVY TRAVEL, SPEAKING AND CONFERENCE SCHEDULE AND CAME TO KNOW MOST ALL OF THE IMPORTANT AFRICAN LEADERS AND POLITICIANS OF NOTE. HE WAS PARTICULARLY CLOSE TO THE LEADERS OF THE LIBERATION MOVEMENTS OF THE FORMER PORTUGUESE TERRITORIES AND OF RHODESIA WHOM GUYANA ASSISTED. HE FOLLOWS POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS IN THE UNITED STATES CLOSELY AND IS GENERALLY WELL INFORMED WHEN HE TAKES THE TIME AND DOES NOT JUMP TO CONCLUSIONS.  
WILKOWSKI

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